

NEWS RELEASE

DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

Commissioner Claire DeMatteis

Presented by, **Jason P. Miller, Chief of Communications and Community Relations**

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Terra Taylor named Deputy Chief of Community Corrections

Dover, DE – Commissioner Claire DeMatteis today announced the appointment of Statewide Probation and Parole Director Terra Taylor as Deputy Chief of the Bureau of Community Corrections, effective immediately. The Bureau oversees probation and parole, pretrial services, the community work release program, electronic monitoring and other supervision programs for more than 14,000 individuals statewide who are housed in Work Release and Violation of Probation facilities or are serving probationary sentences in the community. Taylor takes on this new leadership positions alongside former Dover Police Chief Marvin Mailey, who joined DOC as Chief of the Bureau of Community Corrections this month.

“Deputy Chief Taylor has spent her career in Community Corrections and has distinguished herself as a “can-do” leader who supports her team and embraces new ideas and technology to achieve clear goals,” **Commissioner DeMatteis said.** “We will lean on her deep knowledge and record of collaboration to navigate through the challenges and seize the opportunities to open new pathways for offenders to succeed while reducing recidivism. Deputy Commissioner Hudson and I are pleased to have her on our leadership team as we leverage all the tools at our disposal to improve public safety and provide second chances.”

“I am honored to serve as Deputy Bureau Chief and I will continue to strongly support the highly dedicated men and women who work in the community every day to enhance security and provide effective supervision of thousands of individuals across our state,” **Deputy Chief Taylor said.** “This is an exciting time in community corrections and I look forward to working alongside our talented team to implement solution-oriented ideas that drive reentry success and support our mission.”

Taylor was the first woman to have served as Statewide Probation and Parole Director and is the first woman to serve as Deputy Bureau Chief of Community Corrections. As Statewide Director since 2017, Taylor has been responsible for Probation and Parole operations and programs in all three counties. She has focused on many initiatives such as improved officer equipment, enhanced community outreach and education, use of evidence-based practices, and improved communication and employee relations. Taylor began her career with the Department of Correction in 1997 as a Home Confinement support employee and a college intern. In 1999, she became a Probation and Parole Officer, specializing in areas such as domestic violence and sex offender supervision. She was promoted to Supervisor in 2011, charged with overseeing multiple units, including Electronic Monitoring, Sex Offenders, Intake, the I-ADAPT reentry program, and Interstate Compact. Taylor assumed the role of Operations Administrator at Dover

Probation & Parole in 2014 with responsibility over the 24-hour Electronic Monitoring Center, the statewide electronic monitoring budget, and the statewide sex offender program. In 2016, Taylor was named Regional Manager of the Dover Probation & Parole Office, responsible for a team of 80 employees who provide community supervision of offenders, manage programs and administer operations across Kent County. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice from Wilmington University in 2002 and is a graduate of the National Institute of Corrections-sponsored *Management Development for the Future* training program.

The Bureau of Community Corrections works to reduce crime and support public safety by assessing offender risks and needs and providing responsive supervision through comprehensive evidence-based reentry-focused programs that feature substance abuse treatment, mental health services, career counseling, education and training. Bureau staff collaborate on a daily basis with medical and behavioral healthcare professionals, community organizations, service providers, state agencies, employers and the Judiciary to connect men and women under their supervision to systems of support that improve their chances of leading productive lives in our communities. They also play an active role in collaborative crime reduction initiatives, including the Group Violence Intervention project in the City of Wilmington.

Taylor replaces former Bureau of Community Corrections Deputy Chief Michael Records who earlier this month transitioned with former Bureau of Community Corrections Chief Jim Elder to similar positions in an expanded Bureau of Healthcare, Substance Use Disorder and Mental Health Services.

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